

**Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Board**

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Title 16, Division 13.4, California Code of Regulations

Proposed Language

Continuing Professional Development

1399.151.1. Review of Applications: Processing Time.

(a) Speech-Language Pathology Licenses.

(1) The board shall inform in writing an applicant for licensure as a speech-language pathologist within 37 days whether the application is complete and accepted for filing or is deficient and what specific information is required.

(2) The board shall inform in writing an applicant for licensure as a speech-language pathologist within 37 days after completion of the application, of its decision whether the applicant meets the requirements for licensure. "Completion of the application" means that a completed application form together with all required information, documentation and fees have been filed by the applicant. This period may be extended if the applicant is delayed in obtaining or completing any required professional experience.

(3) The minimum, median and maximum processing time for an application for licensure as an speech-language pathologist from the time of receipt of the initial application until the board makes a final decision on the application was:

(A) Minimum - 38 days

(B) Median - 294 days

(C) Maximum - 1078 days.

(b) Audiology Licenses.

(1) The board shall inform in writing an applicant for licensure as an audiologist within 46 days whether the application is complete and accepted for filing or is deficient and what specific information is required.

(2) The board shall inform in writing an applicant for licensure as an audiologist within 20 days after completion of the application of its decision whether the applicant meets the requirements for licensure. "Completion of the application" means that a completed application form together with all required information, documentation and fees have been filed by the applicant. This period may be extended if the applicant is delayed in obtaining or completing any required professional experience.

(3) The minimum, median and maximum processing time for an application for licensure as an audiologist from the time of receipt of the initial application until the board makes a final decision on the application was:

(A) Minimum - 53 days

(B) Median - 231 days

(C) Maximum - 686 days.

(c) Aide Registrations.

(1) The board shall inform in writing an applicant for registration as an aide within 30 days whether the application is complete and accepted for filing or is deficient and what specific information is required.

(2) The board shall inform in writing an applicant for registration as an aide within 20 days after completion of the application, of its decision whether the applicant meets the requirements

for registration. "Completion of the application" means that a completed application form together with all required information, documentation and fees have been filed by the applicant.

(3) The minimum, median and maximum processing time for an application for registration as an aide from the time of receipt of the initial application until the board makes a final decision on the application was:

(A) Minimum - 15 days

(B) Median - 85 days

(C) Maximum - 264 days

(d) Continuing Professional Development Provider Approvals.

(1) The board shall inform in writing an applicant for approval as a continuing professional development provider within 30 days whether the application is complete and accepted for filing or is deficient and what specific information is required to correct the deficiency.

(2) The board shall inform in writing an applicant for approval as a continuing professional development provider within 30 days after completion of the application, of its decision whether the applicant meets the requirements for approval. "Completion of the application" means that a completed application form together with all required information, documentation and fees have been filed by the applicant.

(e) Continuing Professional Development Course Submissions.

(1) The board shall inform in writing a licensee and/or a continuing professional development provider within 30 days as to whether a voluntary petition for course approval documentation is complete and accepted for filing or is deficient and what specific information is required to correct the deficiency. The term "complete" means that all required information and documentation has been filed by the licensee and/or continuing professional development provider.

(2) The board shall inform in writing a licensee and/or continuing professional development provider within 45 days after completion of the documentation submitted for a voluntary petition for course approval, of its decision whether the course meets the course content requirements as defined in Section 1399.160 .4.

~~—(e)~~ (f) The program board shall inform an applicant for registration as a speech-language pathology assistant within 30 days whether the application is complete and accepted for filing or is deficient and what specific information is required.

(1) The board shall inform an applicant for approval as a speech-language pathology assistant within 85 days after completion of the application, of its decision whether the applicant meets the requirements for registration. "Completion of the application" means that a completed application form together with all required information, documentation and fees have been filed by the applicant.

(2) The minimum, median and maximum processing time for an application for registration as a speech-language pathology assistant from the time of receipt of the initial application until the board makes a final decision on the application are:

(A) Minimum - 40 days

(B) Median - 127 days

(C) Maximum - 166 days

NOTE: Authority Cited: Sections 2531.95, 2532.6(a), and 2538.1(a), Business and Professions Code. Reference Cited: Sections 2530.6, 2531.4 2532.6(e), 2532.6(e)(2) and 2534.2(f), Business and Professions Code; and Section 15376, Government Code.

Article 11. Continuing Professional Development

1399.160.2. Exemptions from Continuing Professional Development.

(a) An initial licensee shall complete at least twelve (12) hours of continuing professional development, of which no more than four (4) hours may be earned through the following activities ~~maybe be earned through self study courses~~, prior to his or her first license renewal:-

- (1) No more than (2) hours of self-study activities,
- (2) No more than (2) hours from courses related to the discipline of speech-language pathology or audiology as defined in Section 1399.160.4(c)(4), or in indirect client care courses as defined in Section 1399.160.4(c)(3).

(b) A licensee is exempt from the continuing professional development requirement if his or her license is inactive pursuant to Sections 703 and 704 of the Code.

(c) A licensee may submit a written request for exemption from the continuing professional development requirement for any of the reasons listed below. The board will notify the licensee, within thirty (30) working days after receipt of the request for exemption, whether the exemption was granted. If the request for exemption is denied, the licensee is responsible for completing the full amount of continuing professional development required for license renewal. The board shall grant the exemption if the licensee can provide evidence, satisfactory to the board, that:

(1) For at least one year during the licensee's previous license renewal period the licensee was absent from California due to military service;

(2) For at least one year during the licensee's previous license renewal period the licensee resided in another country; or

(3) During the licensee's previous renewal period, the licensee or an immediate family member, where the licensee has primary responsibility for the care of that family member, was suffering from or suffered a disability. A disability is a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of an individual. The disability shall be verified by a licensed physician or psychologist with special expertise in the area of disability. Verification of the disability shall include:

(A) the nature and extent of the disability;

(B) an explanation of how the disability hinders the licensee from completing the continuing professional development requirement; and

(C) the name, title, address, telephone number, professional license or certification number, and original signature of the licensed physician or psychologist verifying the disability.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 2531.95 and 2532.6(a), Business and Professions Code.

Reference: Section 2532.6(d), Business and Professions Code.

1399.160.3. Continuing Professional Development Requirements.

(a) A licensee, whose license expires in the year 2001, shall accrue at least twelve (12) hours of continuing professional development courses as defined in Section 1399.160.4. A licensee may accrue no more than four (4) hours of continuing professional development courses through self-study courses during this renewal period.

(b) A licensee who holds both a speech-language pathology license and an audiology license that expire in the year 2001, shall accrue at least eight (8) hours of continuing professional development courses as defined in Section 1399.160.4.

for each license. A licensee may accrue no more than two (2) hours of continuing professional development courses through self-study courses for each license.

(c) A licensee shall accrue at least twenty-four (24) hours during a single renewal

period of continuing professional development courses as defined in Section 1399.160.4. A licensee may accrue no more than eight (8) hours of continuing professional development courses through the following activities self-study courses during a single renewal period:-

(1) No more than four (4) hours of self-study activities.
(2) No more than four (4) hours from courses related to the discipline of speech-language pathology or audiology, as defined in Section 1399.160.4(c)(4) or in indirect client care courses as defined in Section 1399.160.4(c)(3).

(3) Not more than 50% of the continuing professional development hours required of a licensed audiologist, shall be obtained from courses where the content focuses on equipment, devices, or other products of a particular publisher, company or corporation.

(d) A licensee who holds both a speech-language pathology license and an audiology license, shall accrue at least sixteen (16) hours of continuing professional development courses as defined in Section 1399.160.4 for each license. A licensee may accrue no more than five (5) hours of continuing professional development through the following activities self-study courses for each license:-

(1) No more than two and one-half (2.5) hours of self-study activities.
(2) No more than two and one-half (2.5) hours from courses related to the discipline of speech-language pathology or audiology, as defined in Section 1399.160.4(c)(4) or in indirect client care courses as defined in Section 1399.160.4(c)(3).

(e) If a licensee teaches a course offered by a provider registered with the board or an entity listed in Section 2532.6 of the Code, the licensee may claim credit for the same course only once ~~one time during a single renewal period~~, receiving the same amount of hours of continuing professional development credit as a licensee who attended the course.

(f) A licensee may not claim credit for the same course more than once ~~during a single renewal period~~ for hours of continuing professional development.

(g) A licensee who takes a course as a condition of probation resulting from disciplinary action by the board may not apply the course as credit towards the continuing professional development.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 2531.95 and 2532.6(a), Business and Professions Code.

Reference: Section 2532.6(b), (c), and (e), Business and Professions Code.

1399.160.4. Continuing Professional Development Course Content.

(a) A ~~provider offering courses for~~ licensed speech-language pathologists shall determine ~~ensure~~ that the content and learning outcomes of a course ~~shall be~~ are relevant to the practice of speech-language pathology as defined in Section 2530.2(d).

(b) A ~~provider offering courses for~~ licensed audiologist shall determine ~~ensure~~ that the content and learning outcomes of a course ~~shall be~~ are relevant to the practice of audiology as defined in Section 2530.2(k).

(c) The content of a course shall pertain ~~also be related~~ to direct, related, or indirect patient/client care.

(1) Examples of ~~Direct~~ patient/client care courses for the practice of speech-language pathology include ~~cover specialty areas of practice:~~ fluency disorders, voice disorders, motor disorders of speech, dysphagia, speech science, oral and written language disorders, aphasia and neurogenic disorders of language and cognition, augmentative and alternative communication, phonological/articulatory disorders language science, and patient/client counseling to facilitate recovery from, or adjustment to, a communication disorder.

(2) Examples of direct patient/client care courses for the practice of audiology include auditory and vestibular assessment, auditory habilitation/rehabilitation, hearing assistive technology, industrial audiology/hearing conservation and hearing science.

~~(2)~~(3) Indirect patient/client care courses cover pragmatic aspects of ~~clinical~~speech-language pathology or audiology practice (e.g., legal or ethical issues, consultation, record-keeping, office management, managed care issues, research obligations, supervision training, technological applications related to assessment/diagnosis or intervention).

(4) Courses that are related to the discipline of speech-language pathology or audiology may cover general medical or educational offerings including, but not limited to, social interaction, cultural and linguistic diversity as it applies to service delivery for diverse populations, professional service delivery models, interdisciplinary case management issues, or medical pathologies related to neurological disorders that also result in communication difficulties.

(d) A provider shall ensure that a course has specific objectives that are measurable.

(e) Upon completion of a course, a licensee shall evaluate the course through some type of evaluation mechanism.

(f) Courses considered outside the scope of continuing professional development include, but are not limited to, those in the following areas:

- (1) money management, the licensee's personal finances or personal business matters;
- (2) general physical fitness or the licensee's personal health;
- (3) presentations by political or public figures or other persons that do not deal primarily with the practice of either speech-language pathology or audiology;
- (4) tort liability;
- (5) courses that address increased office production or computerization, financial planning, employee benefits, marketing or motivational topics to increase productivity or profitability; and
- (6) courses in which the primary beneficiary is the licensee, not the consumer.

~~basic educational or cultural subjects not related to the practice of either speech-language pathology or audiology;~~

~~courses addressing the computerized speech-language pathologist's or audiologist's office when the topic involves record management or new technology designed primarily for the licensee's understanding and benefit;~~

~~(7) — courses designed to make the licensee a better business person or designed to improve the licensee's or his or her staff's motivation;~~

~~(8) — courses pertaining to the improvement of office operations, licensee and staff convenience, or profit motive;~~

~~(9) — courses that address increased office production, financial planning, employee benefits, marketing or motivational topics to increase productivity or profitability; and~~

~~(10) —~~

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 2531.95 and 2532.6(a), Business and Professions Code.
Reference: Section 2532.6(b), (c), and (e), Business and Professions Code.

1399.160.5. Hours of Continuing Professional Development.

(a) One hour of instruction is equal to one hour of continuing professional development credit.

(b) One academic quarter unit is equal to ten (10) hours of continuing professional development credit.

(c) One academic semester unit is equal to fifteen (15) hours of continuing professional development credit.

(d) One academic trimester unit is equal to thirteen (13) hours of continuing professional development credit.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 2531.95 and 2532.6(a), Business and Professions Code.
Reference: Section 2532.6(b), and (c), Business and Professions Code.

1399.160.6. Continuing Professional Development Providers Course Approval.

(a) A licensee shall only be credited with continuing professional development hours if he or she takes a course from a board-approved provider with a valid, current approval as a provider- or from an entity listed in Section 2532.6 (e)(1) of the Code.

(b) A licensee or a continuing professional development provider may voluntarily petition Board consideration of any courses offered by an approved provider or an entity listed in Section 2532.6 (e)(1) of the Code. The licensee or continuing professional development provider must submit such request for course approval to the Board according to the timeline in Section 1399.151.1 (e). Such request shall include:

(1) The name of the sponsoring institution, the Board issued professional development provider number (with the exception of those entities listed in Section 2532.6(e)(1)), the address, telephone number and contact person.

(2) Course title, date(s), location(s), and number of continuing professional development hours offered.

(3) Type and method of educational instruction and learner outcomes to be met.

(4) A course outline, course description, and instructor information and qualifications.

(5) If available, advertisements intended to be used by the provider to advertise the relevant course.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 2531.95 and 2532.6(a), Business and Professions Code.
Reference: Section 2532.6(b), ~~and~~ (e)(1), and (e)(2) Business and Professions Code.

Section 1399.160.7. Board-Approved Providers.

(a) A continuing professional development provider shall meet the board's course content and instructor qualifications criteria, as provided under this article, to qualify to become a board-approved provider.

(b) An applicant for continuing professional development provider shall submit a completed Continuing Professional Development Provider Application (form no. 77A-50, new 1/99), hereby incorporated by reference, remit the appropriate fees, submit a complete operational plan, and obtain a continuing professional provider number from the board to become a board-approved provider.

(c) A provider approval issued under this section shall expire twenty-four months after the approval issue date. To renew an unexpired provider approval, the provider shall, on or before the expiration date of the approval, pay the biennial renewal fee set forth in Section 1399.157 of these regulations.

(d) A provider approval that is not renewed by the expiration date may not be renewed, restored, reinstated, or reissued thereafter, but the provider may apply for a new approval.

(e) Board-approved provider status is not transferable.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 2531.95 and 2532.6(a), Business and Professions Code.
Reference: Section 2532.6(e)(1) and (e)(2), Business and Professions Code.

1399.160.9. Course Advertisement.

A provider shall ensure that information publicizing a continuing professional development course is accurate and includes the following:

- (a) the provider's name;
- (b) the provider's approval number from the board;
- (c) the statement "Course meets the qualifications for _____ hours of continuing professional development credit for (Speech-Language Pathologists or Audiologists as the case may be) as required by the California Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Board";
- (d) the provider's policy on refunds in cases of non-attendance by the registrant or cancellation by the provider;
- (e) a clear, concise description of the course content and ~~objectives~~ learning outcomes;
- (f) a statement describing the level of the course content; and
- (g) a personal disclosure statement if either the instructor or provider has a personal financial interest in the course content.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 2531.95 and 2532.6(a), Business and Professions Code.
Reference: Section 2532.6(e), Business and Professions Code.

1399.160.10. Course Instructor Qualifications.

A provider shall ensure that an instructor teaching a course has at least two of the following minimum qualifications:

- (a) a license, registration, or certificate in an area related to the subject matter of the course. The license, registration, or certificate shall be current, valid, and free from restrictions due to disciplinary action by this board or any other health care regulatory agency;
- (b) a valid, current certification in the subject area issued by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association or the American Board of Audiology;
- (c) training, certification, or experience in teaching courses in the subject matter; or
- (d) at least two years' experience in an area related to the subject matter of the course.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 2531.95 and 2532.6(a), Business and Professions Code.
Reference: Section 2532.6(e), Business and Professions Code.